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PC10315AGPR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Mark D. Fidock : Examiner: To Be Assigned

SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned :

FILED: Herewith : Art Unit: To Be Assigned

FOR: Enzyme PDE xiv :

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the matter of the application being filed herewith, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 7, 13-15, and 18-25.

In claim 3, please delete "or claim 2".

In claim 6, please replace "any one of claims 3 to 5" with --claim 3--.

In claims 8 and 9, please replace "any one of claims 3 to 7" with --claim 3--.

In claim 10, please replace the entirety of the claim with

~~An assay method for identifying an agent that can affect PDE_XIV activity, the assay method comprising:~~
 contacting the agent with a PDE_XIV protein having an amino acid sequence according to claim 1; and
 measuring the activity of the PDE_XIV protein;
wherein a difference between PDE activity in the absence of the agent and PDE activity in the presence of the agent is indicative that the agent can affect PDE_XIV activity.

In claim 12, please delete "or claim 11" and "or expression".

In claims 16 and 17, after each occurrence of "PDE", please insert --_XIV--.

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